



HEY EPI NEWS

Issue No. 3 **Disease Reporting From 8:00 – 5:00 Call 487-3186 After hours Call 201-0804** December 2004

Leon County Health Department

■ **Arthur P. Cooper**

Administrator 487-3146

■ **Marjorie Kirsch**

Medical Director . . . 487-3162

■ **Frankie Mathews**

Nursing Director . . . 487-3186

■ **Alex Mahon**

Environmental Hlth 487-3166

■ **Jack Pittman**

PH Preparedness . 487-3146

■ **Loyce Hill**

Communicable Disease . . .
..... 487-3186

■ **Rebecca D'Alessio**

Epidemiology . . . 487-3186

Main Clinic

2965 Municipal Way,
Tallahassee, FL 32304

Roberts and Stevens

1515 Old Bainbridge Road
Tallahassee, FL 32303

South Side

872 West Orange Avenue,
Tallahassee, FL 32310

Environmental Health

3401 West Tharpe Street,
Tallahassee FL 32304

For more surveillance
information, see the DOH

Web site at
<http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Environment/hsee/arbo/index.htm> or call the

Disease Outbreak
Information Hotline which
offers updates on medical
alert status and
surveillance at
888.880.5782



Hot Topics

EPICOM Update - Measles

On November 29, 2004, the Hillsborough County Health Department received a report of a positive Measles IGM in a one-year-old unimmunized child. The clinical presentation included rash, fever 104, cough, coryza, and conjunctivitis. This child had traveled to India 6/6/04 and returned to the United States 11/14-11/15/04:

1. Hyderabad to Bombay on November 14 Air India flight number A1443:
2. Bombay to Newark on November 14 Air India flight A1191
3. Newark to Tampa on Continental flight # 1418Yon November 15.

Three different airlines were involved and contact tracing is being conducted by Hillsborough Health Department staff.

Although measles transmission is known to occur on commercial aircraft, available data suggest risk of transmission is low. However, those passengers seated adjacent to a contagious case are at an increased risk of infection.

If you suspect a case of measles in your practice, please notify Leon County Health Department who can assist you with laboratory confirmation and contact tracing and follow-up.

Botulism cases in South Florida

Florida Department of Health (DOH) , the Broward and Palm Beach CHDs, have been investigating a cluster of possible botulism cases among four south Florida residents. These cases may be associated with injection therapy for cosmetic purposes of botulinum toxin in a Broward County clinic or other sites. All 4 patients presented with paralysis and are now intubated in intensive care. Two were admitted to a Palm Beach hospital and 2 others were admitted to a New Jersey hospital after travel there for Thanksgiving.

The DOH State Health Office is requesting that all County Health Departments report any incidences in their counties that may be related to this cluster. In this regard, we are requesting your assistance in reporting to the Leon County Health Department, if you suspect any related cases. We can assist you in the investigation of these suspect cases.

The Leon County Health Department has notified all county emergency rooms and hospital infection control practitioners of the above situation.

Sentinel Physician – Week 47

Data from 2 local physicians reporting on Influenza sentinel data:

Total Patients Seen – 716

Total Influenza Like Illness (ILI) Seen – 7 (2 - Age 0-4 and 5 - Age 5-24)

We do not have any reports of confirmed cases, at this time.

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<http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Environment/hsee/arbo/index.htm> or call
the Disease Outbreak Information Hotline which offers updates on
medical alert status and surveillance at 888.880.5782

EPI Reporting

What to report?

Suspected or diagnosed communicable diseases and outbreaks. List of the diseases can be obtained from the Leon County Health Department by calling **(850) 488-3186** or http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease_ctrl/epi/surv/lor8_3.pdf

Why Report?

Health care practitioners are very busy people and an individual practitioner may not know what is happening in their community at all times. Reporting of communicable disease makes it possible to prevent further spread of the disease.

Who should report?

All licensed health care practitioner.

When should the report be made?

These reports should be made promptly within 72 hours.

Immediate Notifiable Conditions includes:

- Public health emergencies
- Unusual events/disease, e.g. possible Bioterrorism event/disease, Category A
- And any disease outbreak.

Where to report?

Direct further inquiry to the Leon County Health Department Epidemiology, Nursing Program Specialist,
Rebecca D'Alessio at 487-3186.





Community Hotline

Leon County Health Department Confirmed Cases per Year

Disease Name	2001	2002	2003	YTD 2004
Hepatitis C	295	264	288	136
Viral Meningitis (A)				57
Salmonellosis	68	114	76	61
Giardiasis	24	14	20	28
Streptococcal pneumoniae	6	2	8	24
Shigellosis	9	17	50	15
Hepatitis B in Pregnant Women	8	7	3	15
Hepatitis B	4	4	6	9
Campylobacteriosis	12	23	10	8
Tuberculosis	13	20	10	8
Hepatitis A	7	1	20	5
Malaria	1	0	3	3
Meningococcal Disease	2	2	1	1

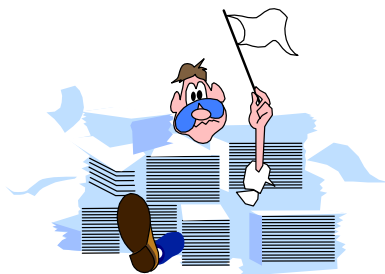
(A) This is non-reportable. Began tracking in 2004. No previous data available.

Epidemiology Investigation Team (EIT) On-Call Nurse Leon County Health Department

Leon County Health Department (LCHD) public health disease reporting system operates twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week (24/7). This system is focused on strengthening key components of the traditional public health surveillance process in the Leon County area. This system is in response to needs associated with early **detection** of reportable diseases and of suspected terrorist event that requires response by public health nursing. The Epidemiology Investigation Team (EIT) on-call nurse provides public health nursing coverage during non-business hours.

"Telephone Reportable" Diseases/Conditions are those designated by F.S. to be reported immediately by telephone. Immediately Notifiable Conditions (public health emergencies; unusual events/disease, e.g. possible Bioterrorism event/disease, Category A), and any disease outbreak must also be reported immediately.

On-Call Number:
(850) 201- 0804



Leon County Health Department Stats for EPI investigations in November:

Salmonella – 5
Giardia - 5
Strep Pneumoniae - 2
Hepatitis B - 3
Campylobacter - 1
Lead - 1
Tuberculosis – 2
Latent Tuberculosis Infection
(Interjurisdictional transfer In) - 1
Malaria – 1 (not locally, acquired in Africa)
Vibro – 1 (species is pending, investigations continuing)



what's next 2005

- **Leon County Annual data on diseases**
- **Feature – Avian Influenza Virus H5N1**
- **Leon County EPI Activities**
- **Please let us know other topics you want to see in our EPI News. Send us your comments.**

When should you wash your hands?

You should wash your hands often. Probably more often than you do now because you can't see germs with the naked eye or smell them, so you do not really know where they are hiding.



It is especially important to wash your hands

- Before, during, and after you prepare food
- Before you eat, and after you use the bathroom
- After handling animals or animal waste
- When your hands are dirty, and
- More frequently when someone in your home is sick.